

[illegible]

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of a rectangular substrate 100. The substrate contains four rounded rectangular openings 16 arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each opening 16 is surrounded by a circular region 30a. A coordinate system X is shown on the left, and a coordinate system X' is shown on the right. A label 20 points to the left edge of the substrate.

FIG. 2A

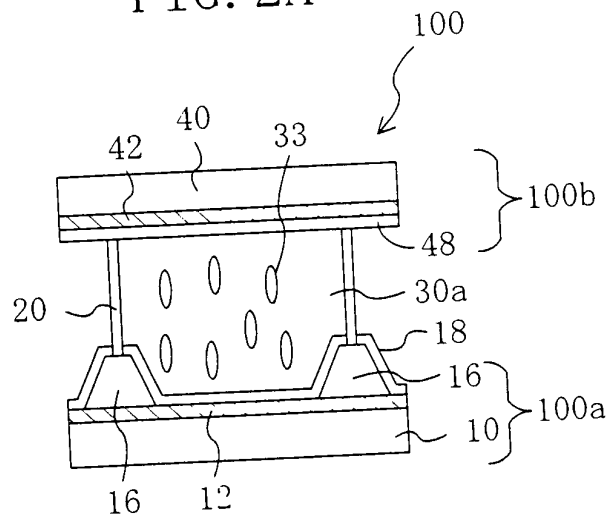


FIG. 2C

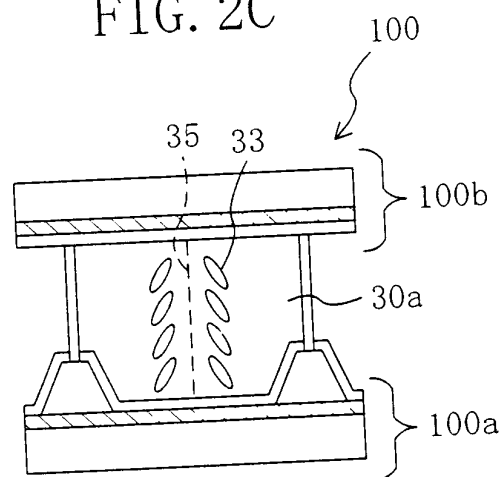


FIG. 2B

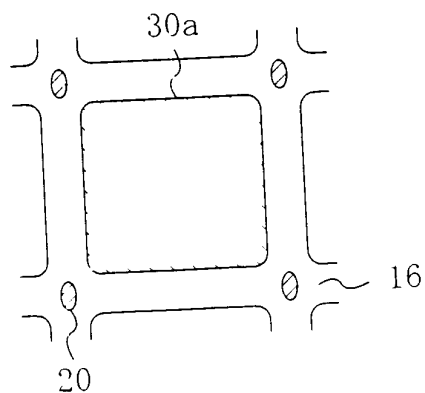


FIG. 2D

Extinction pattern

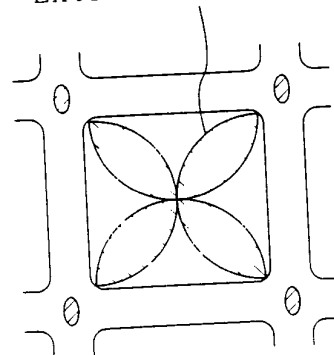


FIG. 3B

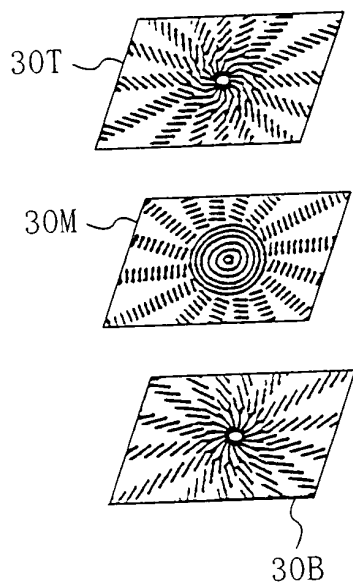


FIG. 3A

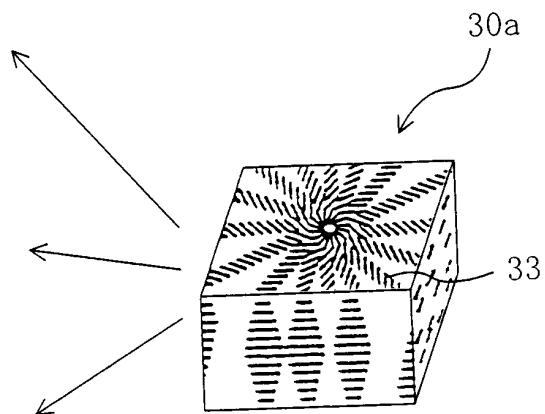


FIG. 4A

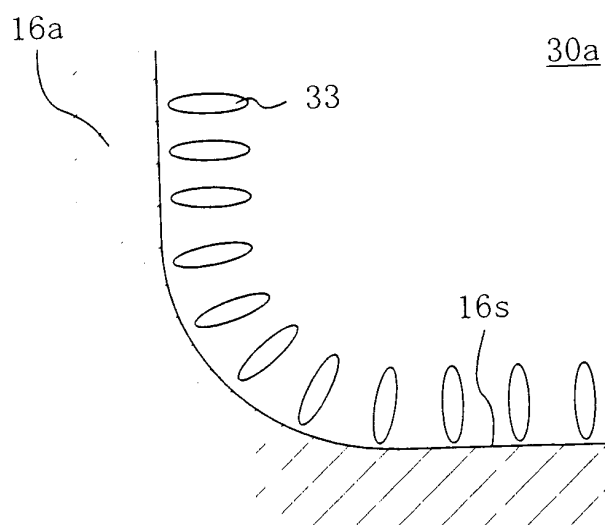


FIG. 4B

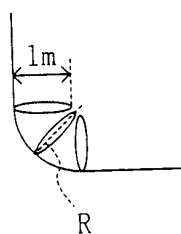


FIG. 4C

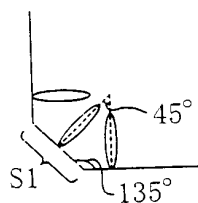


FIG. 4D

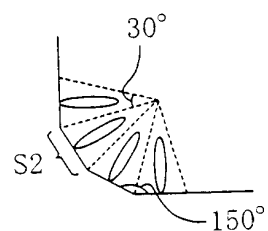


FIG. 5

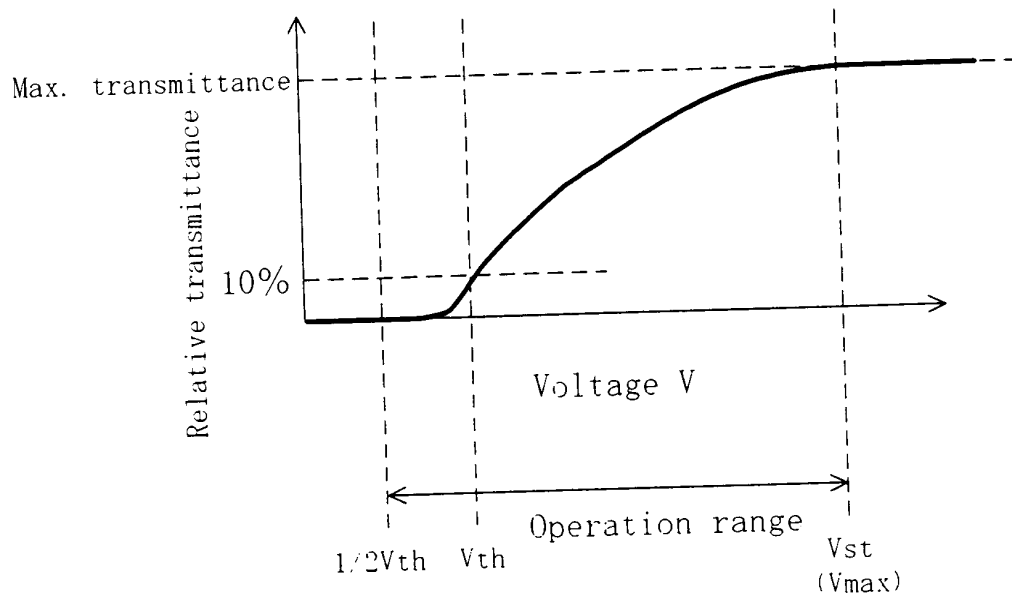


FIG. 6

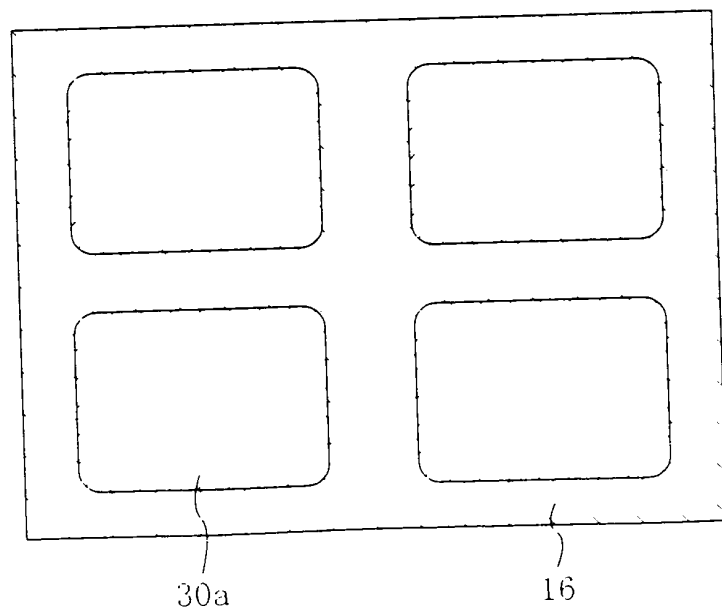


FIG. 7

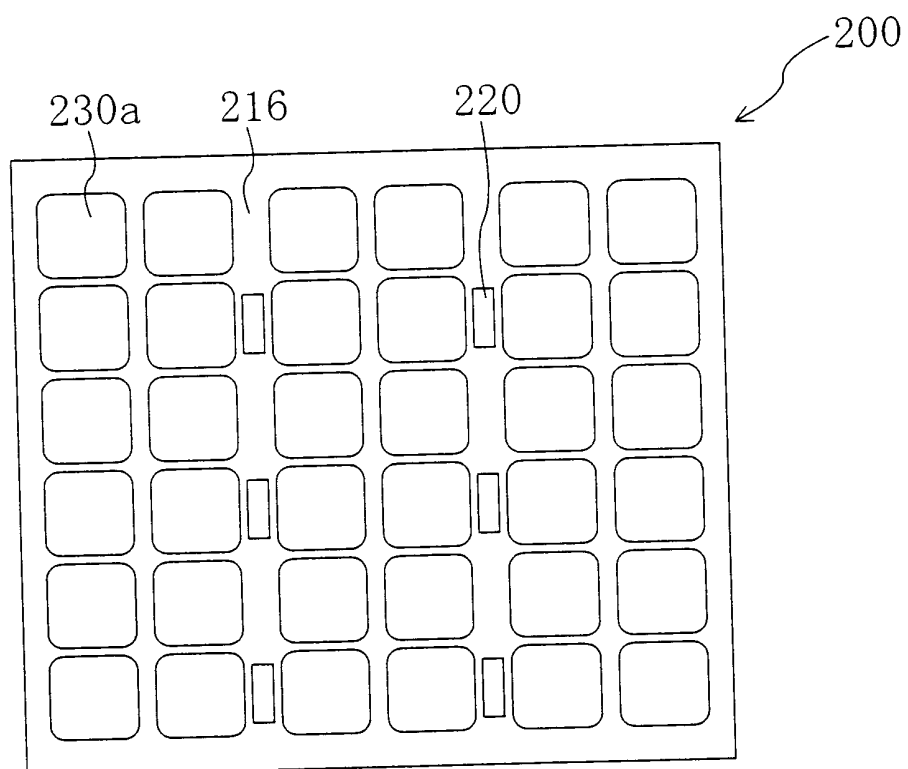
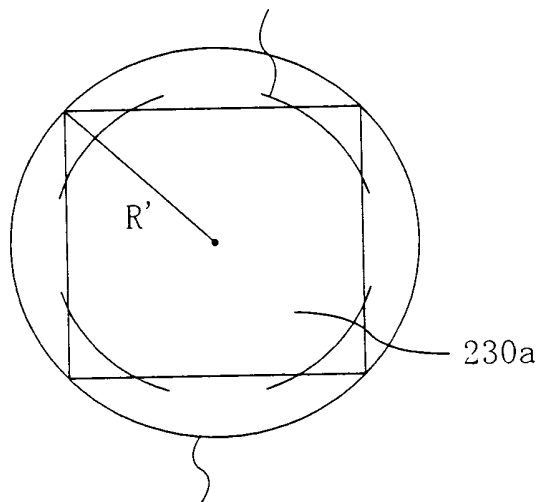


FIG. 8A

Curve P having a radius of curvature not larger than  $R'$



Circle circumscribing a polygon of liquid crystal region 230a (radius  $R'$ )

FIG. 8B

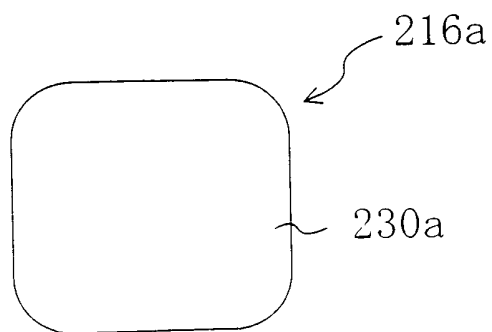


FIG. 9

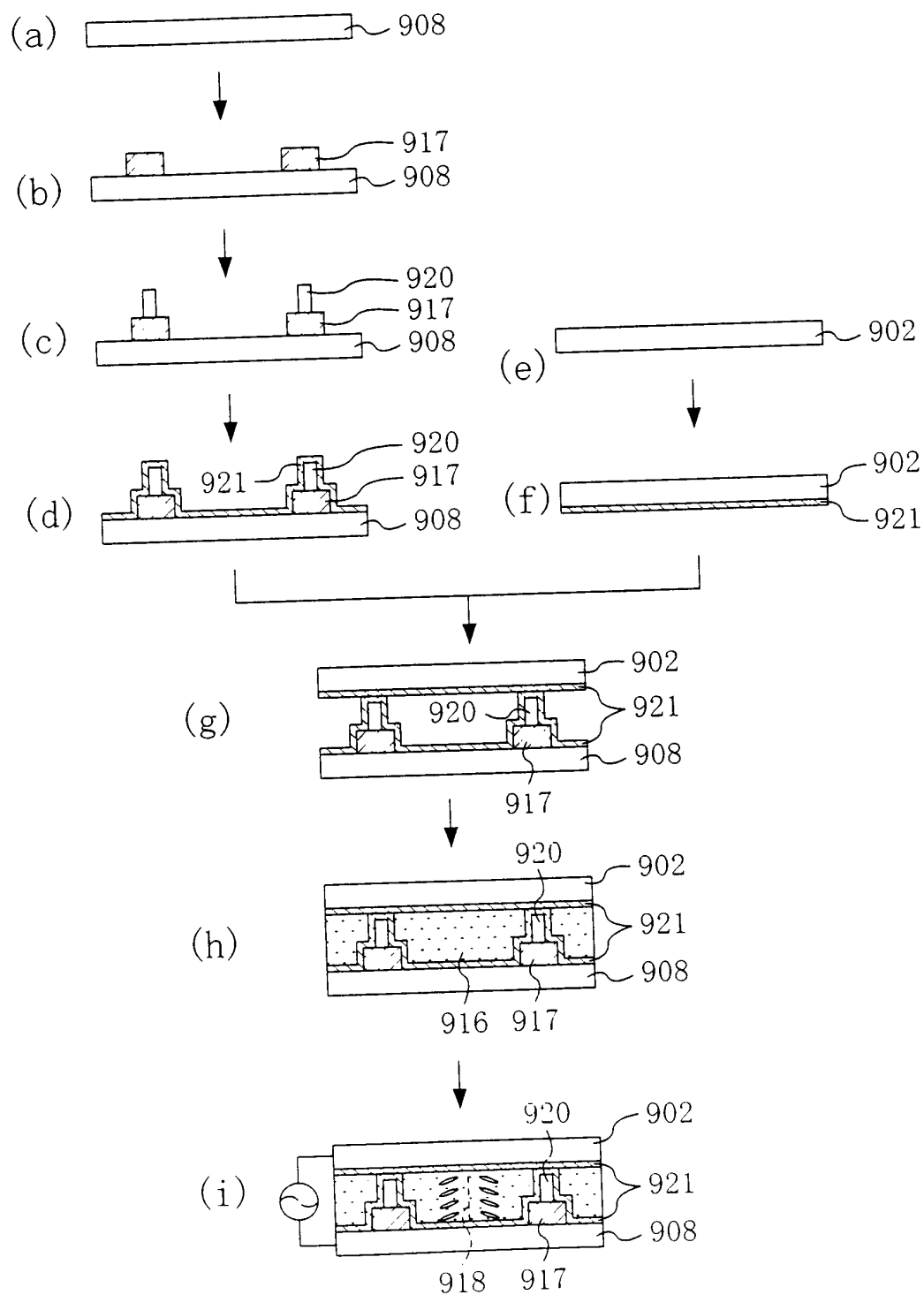




FIG. 10

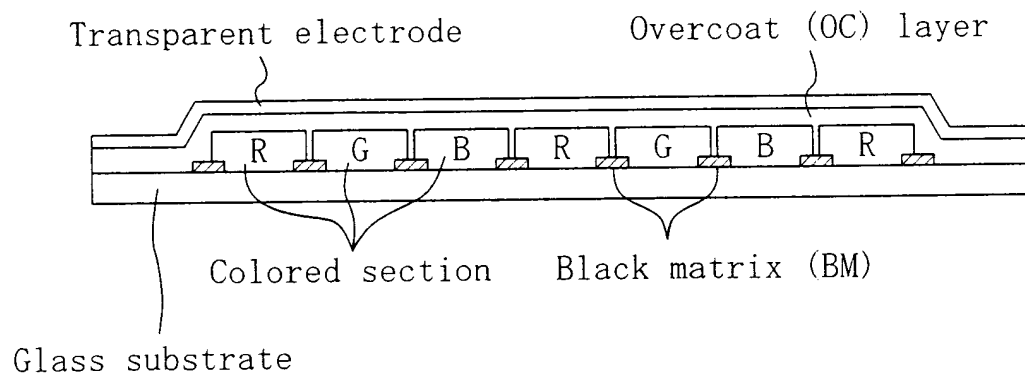


FIG. 11A

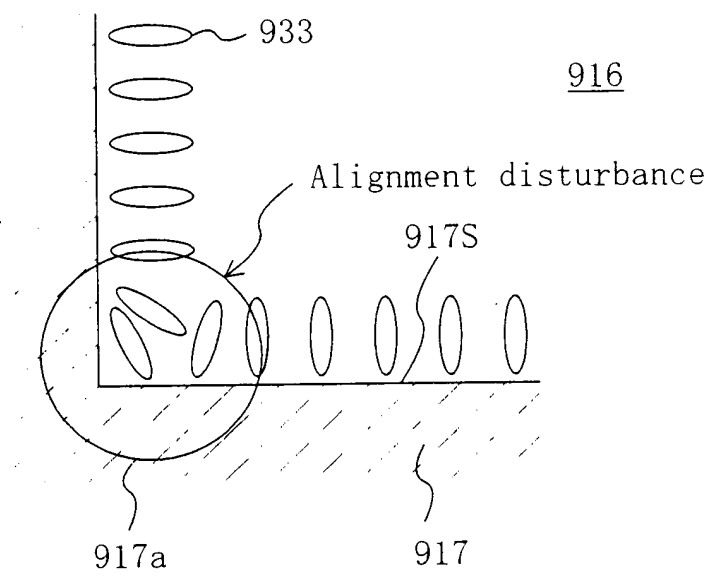


FIG. 11B

